

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference S04PC-36797	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/JP2005/000451	International filing date (day/month/year) 11/01/2005	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 15/01/2004	
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.			

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 8

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP2005/000451

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F11/07 G06F9/45

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 6 149 318 A (CHASE ET AL) 21 November 2000 (2000-11-21) abstract column 2, lines 21-52 column 3, line 65 - column 4, line 11 column 4, lines 50-55 column 5, lines 19,20 column 6, lines 5-12 column 16, line 59 - column 17, line 25 column 18, lines 1-10 column 20, lines 44-53 column 28, lines 18-52	1,2,13, 14,16-21 3-12,15
Y	US 2002/040450 A1 (HARRIS JEREMY GRAHAM ET AL) 4 April 2002 (2002-04-04) abstract paragraphs '0007! - '0017! paragraphs '0072!, '0077! ----- -/-	3-12

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

8 document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 June 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/06/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP2005/000451

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 458 556 A (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION) 27 November 1991 (1991-11-27) column 12, lines 16-46 -----	15
A	US 5 761 513 A (YELLIN ET AL) 2 June 1998 (1998-06-02) abstract column 1, line 65 - column 2, line 27 column 3, line 41 - column 6, line 50 -----	1-21
A	EP 1 369 787 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD) 10 December 2003 (2003-12-10) the whole document -----	1-21
A	US 5 537 539 A (NARIHIRO ET AL) 16 July 1996 (1996-07-16) abstract column 1, lines 43-51 column 3, line 25 - column 4, line 8 column 8, lines 44-46 column 9, lines 34-48 -----	1,5,13, 16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2005/000451

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6149318	A	21-11-2000	NONE	
US 2002040450	A1	04-04-2002	GB 2367648 A	10-04-2002
EP 0458556	A	27-11-1991	US 5159597 A	27-10-1992
			DE 69127025 D1	04-09-1997
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			CN 1469254 A	21-01-2004
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			EP 1369787 A2	10-12-2003
			US 2004019774 A1	29-01-2004
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			JP 7078094 A	20-03-1995